

Technical Information Sheet

Thermafleece & Wildlife

Version 1.21



Bats

Bats are a protected species in the UK and bat roosts must be protected. Thermafleece is suitable for use in or around bats. The wool used in Thermafleece is treated with borax (sodium borate) at a safe level. Borax has been widely and safely used in insulation and for timber treatments for decades.

Borax is an active ingredient that is permitted for use in or near bat roosts. The wool in Thermafleece is pre-treated so no chemical treatment is required once the insulation is installed. Thermafleece contains no other active ingredients.

For further information visit:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/bat-roosts-insecticides-and-timber-treatments>

Bees

The wool in Thermafleece is treated with borax (sodium borate) at a safe level. Borax has been widely and safely used in insulation and for timber treatments for decades.

Because borax acts in the gut of insects, it is only effective against insects that feed off the wool fibres. Bees do not feed off wool and are unaffected by the borax contained in the wool. What's more, borax does not exert a vapour pressure and has no repellent or irritating effects therefore bees in close proximity to borax treated wool will not become aggravated or intoxicated.

Ants & Wasps

The wool in Thermafleece is treated with borax (sodium borate) at a safe level. Borax has been widely and safely used in insulation and for timber treatments for decades.

There isn't anything in Thermafleece wool that would either attract or repel ants or wasps. Wasp nests are made from paper the wasps create by nibbling on cellulose based materials such as wood. Sheep's wool plays no role in this process because it is based on keratin not cellulose. Cleaned wool does not provide a viable food source for ants. However, like all porous materials including insulation it is possible that ants could nest in the voids within the insulation but Thermafleece does not present an additional risk.

Cluster Flies

Cluster flies can sometimes over-winter in lofts or summer houses where the temperature may be milder particularly for southerly aspects. This process is independent of the insulation but if insulation is present, it is natural to draw a link. Cluster flies do not feed off wool and are over-wintering where conditions are mildest. There is no risk to the integrity of the insulation and the insulation plays no role in the occurrence.

Flies

Flies cannot feed of Thermafleece and pose no risk to the material. Some batches of wool may very occasionally smell a bit more 'sheepy' and could attract flies through the odour but this will



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quickly disappear when the insulation is aired and installed. There is no threat to the integrity of the insulation and any presence with flies will be short lived.

Mould

Clean sheep's wool doesn't readily provide a food source for moulds to grow. However, mould is likely to develop in many situations where relative humidity is persistently above 80%. It is important that appropriate ventilation and vapour control measures are incorporated into any application where Thermafleece is used.

Rodents

The risk of damage to insulation materials such as Thermafleece is more dependent on the risk of the building being infested with rodents rather than the nature of the insulation itself. Thermafleece is at no greater risk of rodent damage than other forms of insulation such as mineral fibre. For further information refer to our 'Thermafleece & Rodents' TIS.

Moths

The wool used in Thermafleece contains sodium borate commonly known as borax. Borax is used in many industrial and consumer applications at safe levels and is applied to our wool as a fire retardant. The concentration of borax in our wool means that the wool and in turn the insulation is not susceptible to clothes moth attack and does not need the addition of a biocide.

